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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/892,954 |
| Filing Date | June 27, 2001 |
| First Inventor Named | Nicole S. Carpenter et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 1746 |
| Examiner Name | Gentle E. Winter |
| Attorney Docket No. | BUR920000141US1 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, charge any underpayment, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 09-0456
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | John J. Tomaszewski | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 26,241 |
| Signature | | Date | December 22, 2003 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|-------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Carol M. Thomas | Date | December 22, 2003 |
| Signature | | | |

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IBM Docket No. BUR920000141US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment Response/Transmittal

In re application of: Nicole S. Carpenter et al.

Serial No. 09/892,954

Filed: June 27, 2001

For: CLEANING OF SEMICONDUCTOR WAFERS BY CONTAMINATE ENCAPSULATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

DeLIO & PETERSON, LLC
121 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, CT 06510-1241

Date: December 22, 2003

Transmitted herewith for filing is an **Amendment/Response** in the above-identified Application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| (Col. 1) | | (Col. 2) | (Col. 3) |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | PRESENT EXTRA |
| TOTAL 7 | MINUS | 25 | = 0 |
| INDEPENDENT 1 | MINUS | 3 | = 0 |
| 1ST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS | | | |

| Other Than Small Entity | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
| x \$ 18.00= | \$ 0 |
| x \$ 84.00= | \$ 0 |
| \$280.00 | \$ |
| TOTAL | \$ 0 |

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

☒ Please charge the Assignee IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. **09-0456** in the amount of \$ 0. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **09-0456**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

☐ CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents on the date shown below.

☒ CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8
I hereby certify that I am depositing the enclosed or attached correspondence with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 22, 2003

Carol M. Thomas

Name of person mailing paper

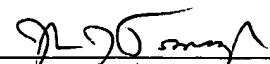
Signature

12/22/03

Date

Respectfully submitted,

BY:


Attorney: John J. Tomaszewski
Registration No. 26,241
(203) 787-0595

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DOCKET: BUR920000141US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|-----------|-------------------|
| INVENTOR: | Nicole S. Carpenter et al. |) | EXAMINER: | Gentle E. Winter |
| | |) | | |
| SERIAL NO.: | 09/892,954 |) | ART UNIT: | 1746 |
| | |) | | |
| FILING DATE: | June 27, 2001 |) | DATE: | December 22, 2003 |
| | |) | | |
| FOR: | CLEANING OF |) | | |
| | SEMICONDUCTOR |) | | |
| | WAFERS BY |) | | |
| | CONTAMINATE |) | | |
| | ENCAPSULATION |) | | |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: December 22, 2003

Signature: *Carol M. Thomas*

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Rejection Office Action mailed September 30, 2003 and Advisory Action mailed December 12, 2003, please reconsider the above-identified RCE application in view of the following amendments and remarks.